

# **BPW/TN Legislative Platform**

## **PREAMBLE**

The Equal Rights Amendment, as authored by Alice Paul, shall stand first, foremost, and above all other items which may appear on the platform of this Federation until equal, legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because all statutory law derives there from.

## **THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

### **Economic Equity**

Actively work to support equal educational opportunities; equal treatment for women in all areas of employment, including adequate retirement benefits, improved programs for women re-entering the workforce, and implementation of equal pay for work of comparable worth.

### **Health**

Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for full access to all health care services including reproductive choice, funding for research into and protection for women's health care and educational programs concerning women's health issues.

### **Civil Rights**

Actively work to pass legislation which will ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives, including support of affirmative action programs; and eliminate all forms of harassment against individuals.

### **Dependent Care**

Actively work to strengthen and improve enrichment programs, physical facilities, and funding for affordable quality dependent care of all ages.

### **Victim Rights**

Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for all individuals who are victims of violent acts including domestic and/or sexual violence; promote violence prevention programs; support services and facilities for survivors of this violence and the funding thereof; and support legislation, which provides compensatory and punitive damage awards to victims.

### **Policy Items**

Actively work for the election of and appointment to policy-making positions those who support the BPW Legislative Platform.

The organization supports issues of importance, which promote the goals, objectives, and mission statement of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc. (BPW/TN). The placement of the Platform items in no way indicates importance or priority of one item above another.